

HEALTH MATTERS

TOBACCO SURVEY SUMMARY KAPUSKASING

This survey was administered by Northern Ontario On-Call in January/February, 2003. The phone survey selected households and an adult within the household randomly. Over 400 Kapuskasing residents 19 years of age and over were surveyed. The survey was delivered in either English or French through the use of a questionnaire developed by the Porcupine Health Unit. The following are some preliminary highlights specific to the community of Kapuskasing. A final report with full details of the survey will be available in late spring.

Smoking Rates:

- 77 % of residents do not smoke; 17 % are daily smokers.

Locations People Left Because of Smoking:

- 37% of residents have left one or more locations because of people smoking.
- 29% of residents have left a restaurant and 15 % have left a bar because smoking was permitted.

Exposure to Second-Hand Smoke:

- 34% of residents are exposed to second-hand smoke on a daily basis. The top five locations for exposure are: restaurants 71%, other people's homes 48%, bars 35%, at home 27% and outside smoke-free facilities 25%.
- 67% of residents are concerned about exposure to second-hand smoke.
- 90% of residents believe that second-hand smoke can cause health problems in non-smokers.
- 95% of residents believe that smoking can cause health problems in a smoker.

Economic Impact:

There would be a positive economic impact of smoke-free bylaws.

- 57% of residents said that there would be no difference in the frequency that they would go to restaurants and 32% said they would frequent restaurants more often.
- 61% of residents (of 79% that go to bars) said that there would be no difference in the frequency that they would go to bars and 21% said that they would go more often.

Awareness of Bylaw:

- 68% of residents are aware of the proposed bylaw that will come into effect on June 1, 2003.

Support for Bylaw:

- 57% of residents strongly support the proposed bylaw; 15% somewhat support.
- 15% of residents strongly oppose the proposed bylaw; 11% somewhat oppose.